

# WHAT'S NEW WITH KIDS?

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February 2016

## Transiency Rates in Nevada

The Nevada Department of Education (NDOE) defines transiency rate as “the percentage of students who do not finish the school year at the same school they started.”<sup>1</sup> Students may not have completed the school year for various reasons, they dropped out of school, they requested to transfer to another school, they moved with their parents, etc. The U.S. Census Bureau, in a national survey, tracks movers’ reasons for moving.<sup>2</sup> The top reasons for a move in 2014 to 2015 were related to housing and jobs.

The NDOE reports transiency rates of public schools by school district on its online Nevada Report Card. Some highlights of the transiency data are presented in the following bullets and charts:

- The transiency rate for Nevada steadily declined over a 10-year period, from 33.5 percent in 2005-2006 to 26.5 percent in 2014-2015, a 20.9 percent decline.
- Clark County School District’s transiency rates mirror the state’s rates from 2005 to 2015. The district enrolls about 70 percent of the state’s student population.
- Over the 10-year period, Washoe County School District’s transiency rate peaked at 30.9 percent in 2010-2011. The following year it fell to 22.1 percent. The district’s rate for 2014-2015, 22.0 percent, was its lowest rate.
- Among the school districts reporting data for 2014-2015, Lincoln County School District reported the highest transiency rate, at 29.1 percent; and Elko County School District reported the lowest rate, at 5.0 percent.
- The rural school districts, which are all districts excluding Clark and Washoe, exhibited fluctuating transiency rates throughout the ten-year period.
- Churchill School District saw a 44.8 percent decrease in its transiency rate from 2005-2006 to 2014-2015.
- Lincoln School District’s transiency rate peaked at 44.3 percent in 2005-2006, bottomed out at 7.9 percent in 2009-2010, and stabilized at around 29-30 percent from 2010-2015.
- White Pine School District’s transiency rate peaked in 2007-2008 at 25.9 percent, declined to a low of 19.7 percent in 2008-2009, then gradually returned to a near high of 25.8 percent in 2014-2015.
- The state charter school and university school transiency rates for 2014-2015 (not shown graphically) were 22.6 percent and 0.0 percent, respectively. Both rates were below the state rate of 26.5.

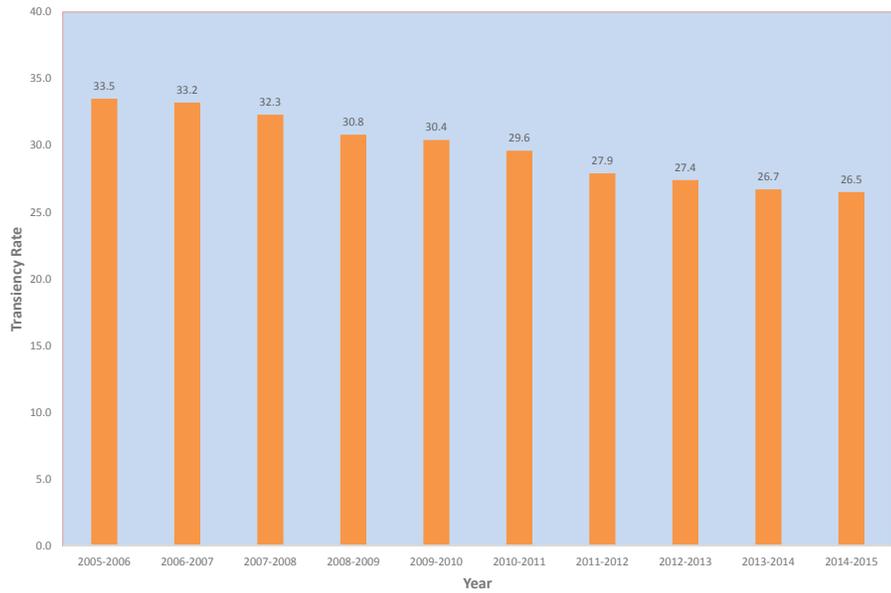
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<sup>1</sup>Nevada Department of Education, Nevada Report Card Accountability Terminology, <http://www.nevadareportcard.com/DI/Help/Glossary#PT>, as of 2/24/16.

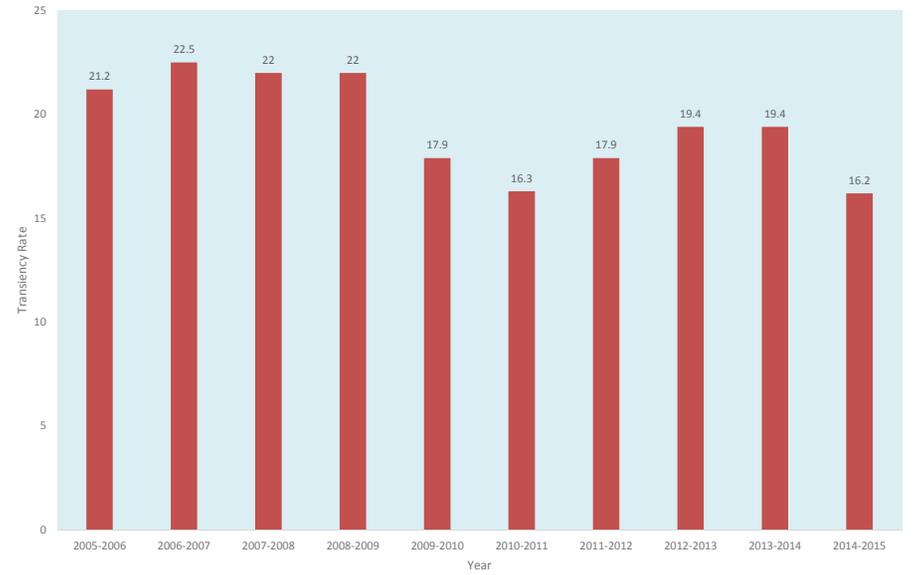
“Students are not considered transient if they are transferred to another school in the district because of a change in school zoning. If a student were transferred to a different track in a year-round school, his/her transfer wouldn’t be counted as transient at that school. Students changing grade level during the same school year at the same school will not be counted as transient” (Nevada Department of Education, *Nevada Department of Education Data Dictionary*, <http://www.doe.nv.gov/DataCenter/>).

<sup>2</sup>The survey response categories for reason for move included (1) change in marital status, (2) to establish own household, (3) other family reason, (4) new job or job transfer, (5) to look for work or lost job, (6) to be closer to work/easier commute, (7) retired, (8) other job related reason, (8) wanted own home, not rent, wanted new or better home/apartment, wanted better neighborhood/less crime, wanted cheaper housing, foreclosure/eviction, other housing reason, to attend or leave college, change of climate, health reasons, natural disaster, and other reasons (U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, 2015 Annual Social and Economic Supplement, Table 17, Reason for Move by Sex, Age and Hispanic Origin, Relationship to Householder, Educational Attainment, Marital Status, Nativity, Tenure, Poverty Status, and Type of Move [all Categories]: 2014-2015).

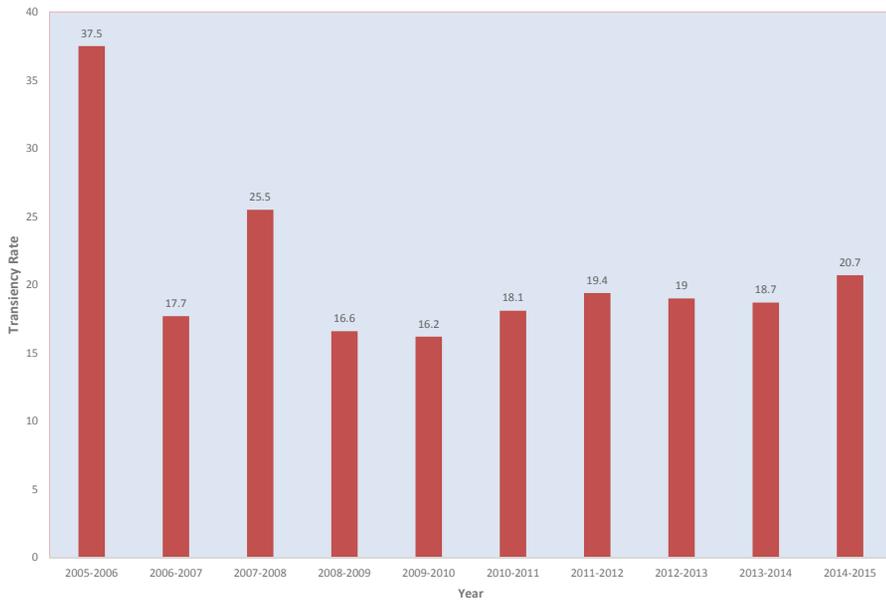
**State Transiency Rates for Nevada Public Schools: 2005-2015**  
(Percent)



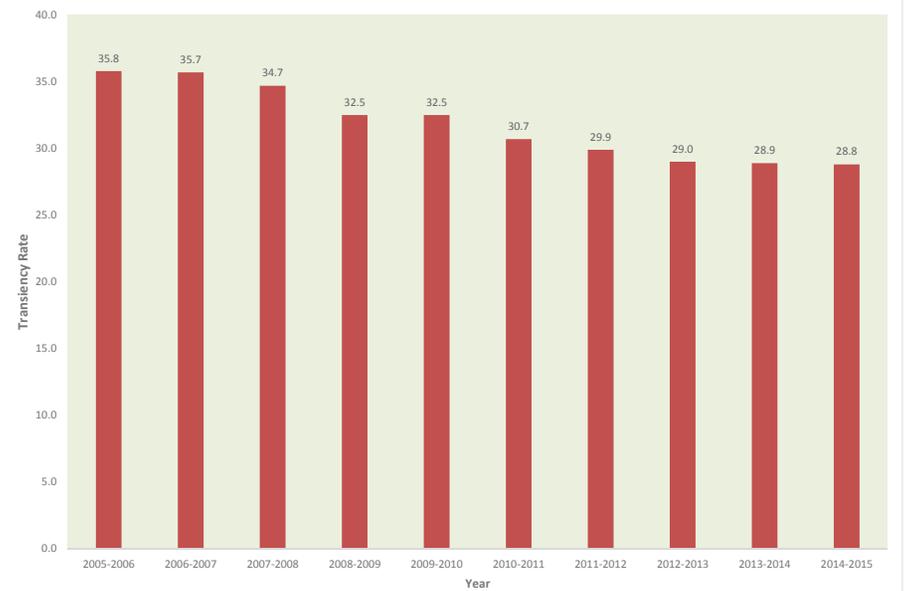
**Transiency Rates for Carson City School District: 2005 - 2015**  
(Percent)

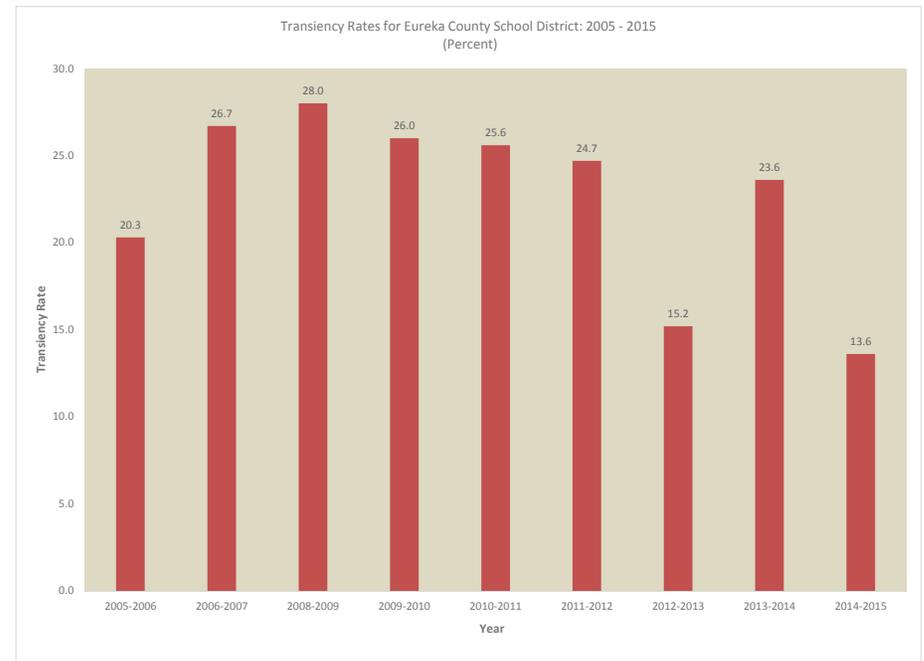
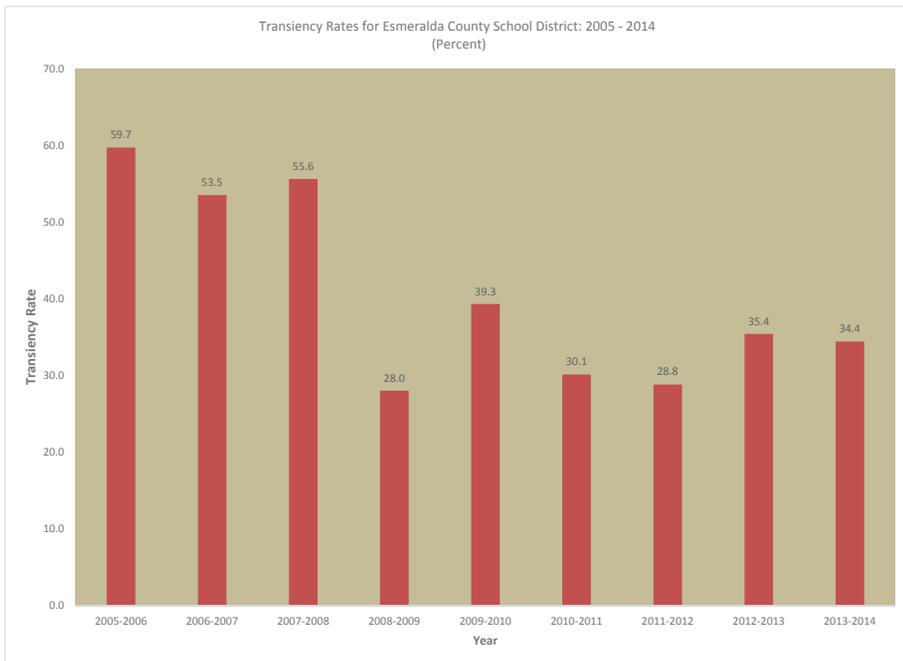
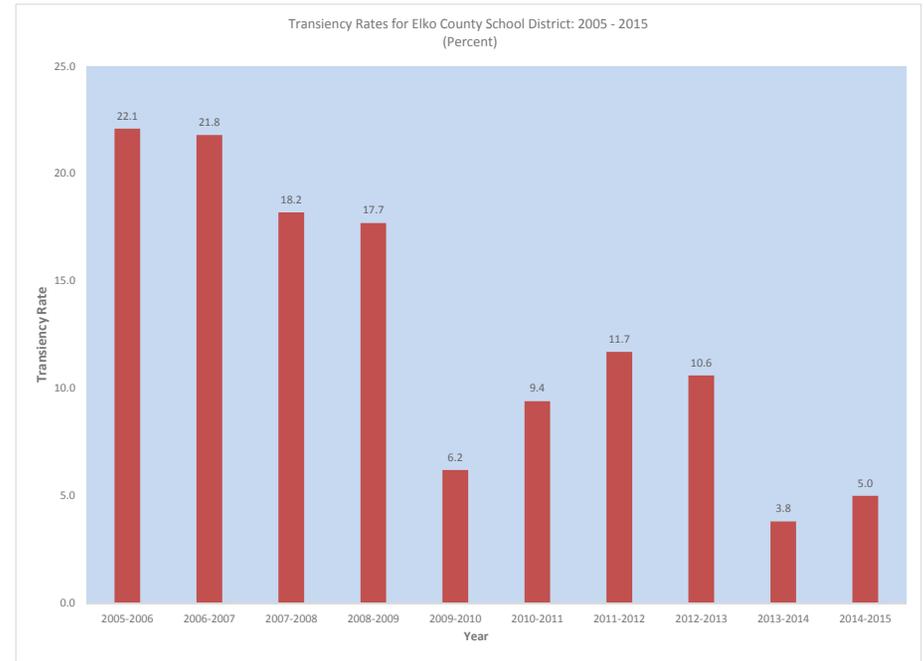
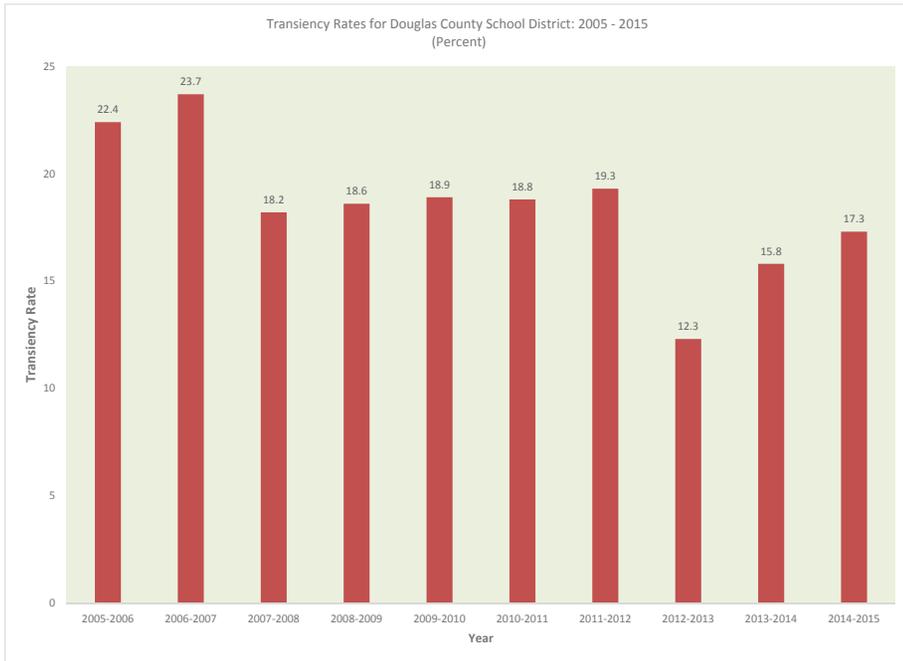


**Transiency Rates for Churchill County School District: 2005 - 2015**  
(Percent)



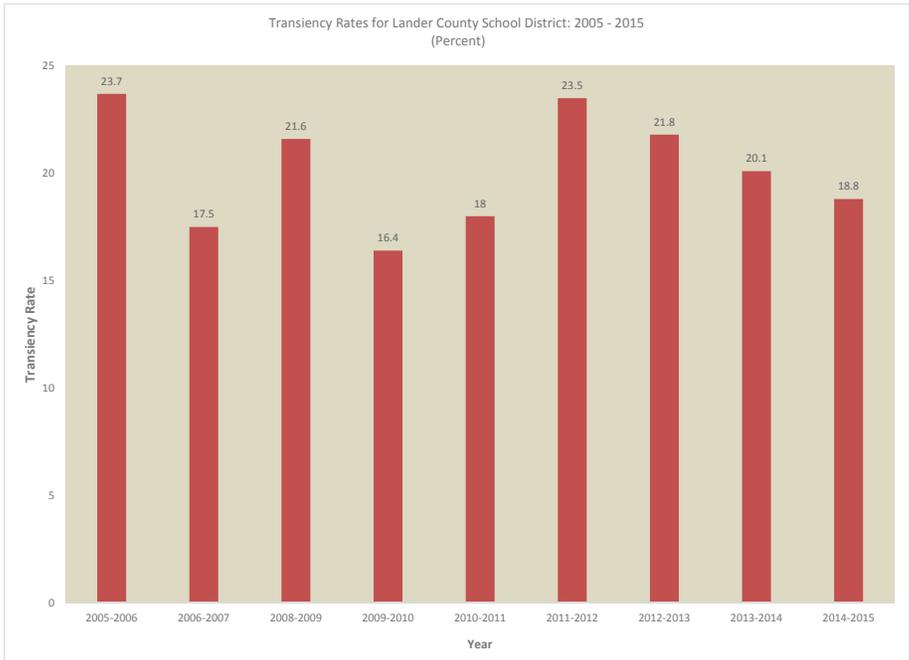
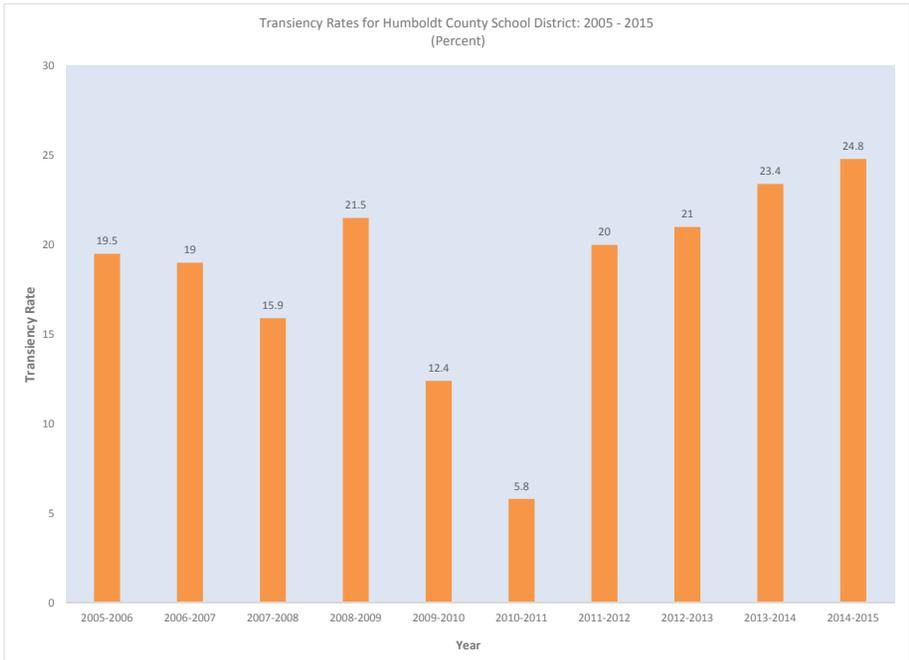
**Transiency Rates for Clark County School District: 2005 - 2015**  
(Percent)



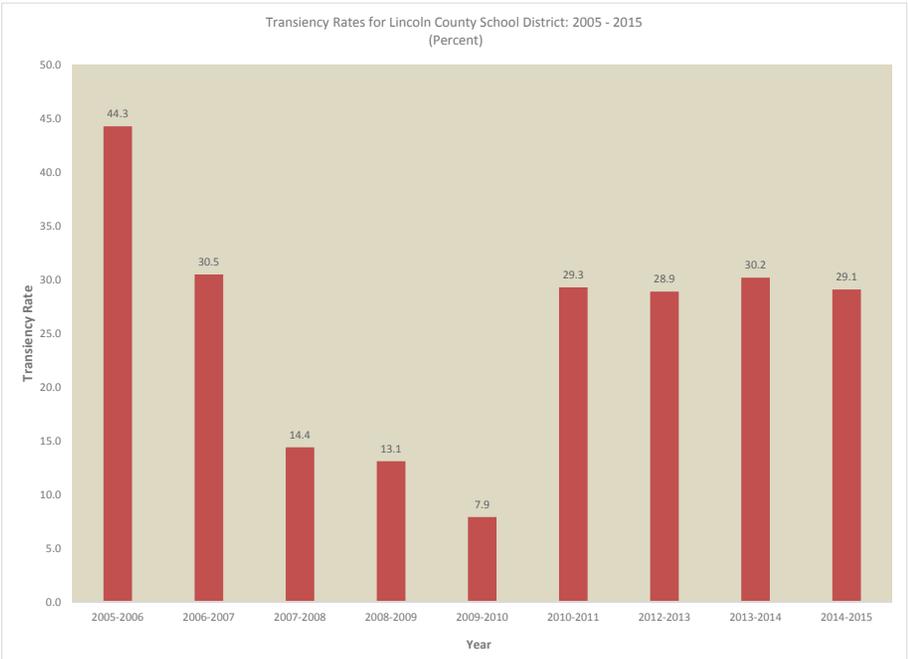


Note: Data were not available for 2014-2015.

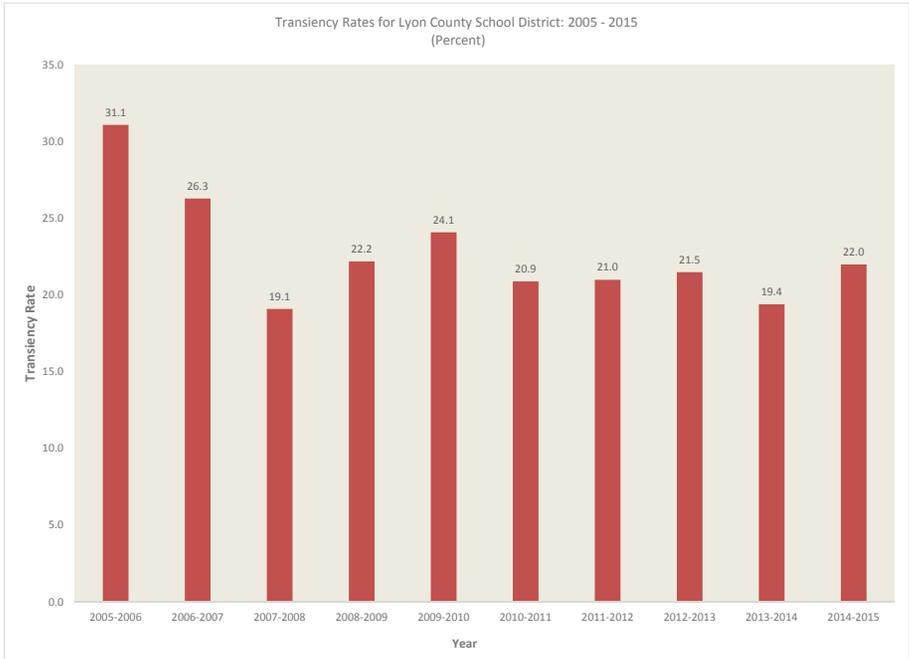
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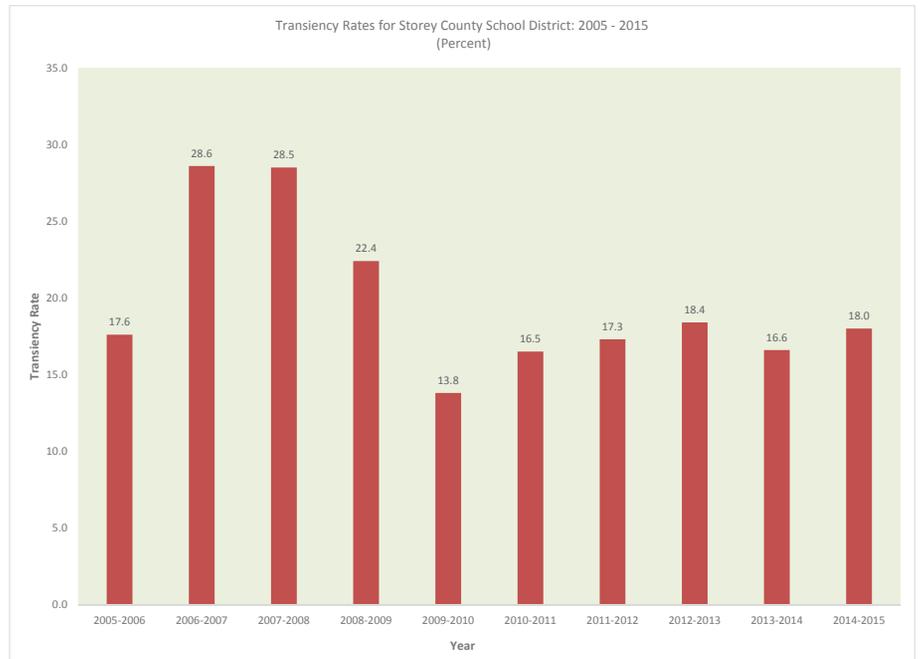
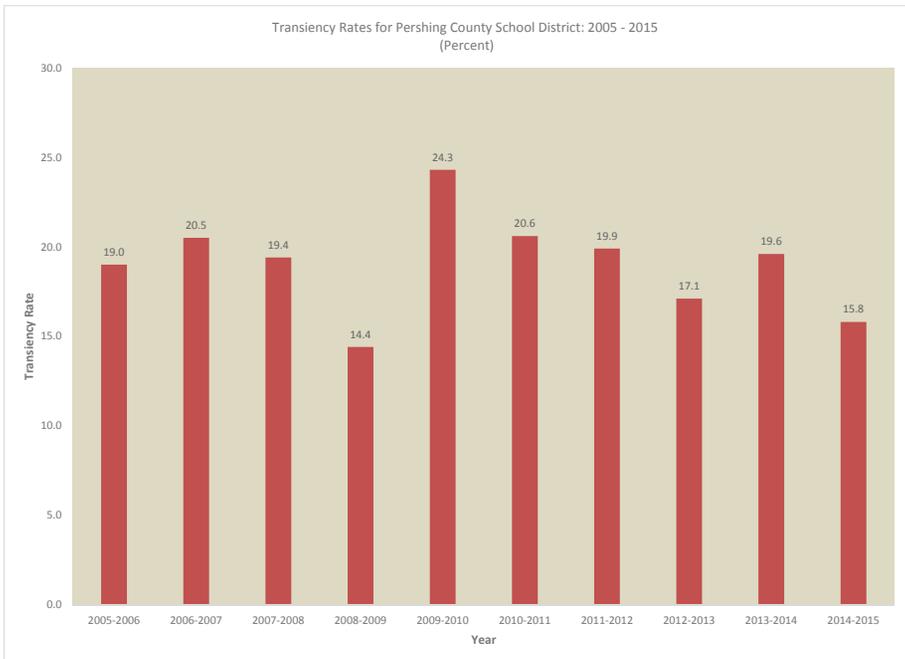
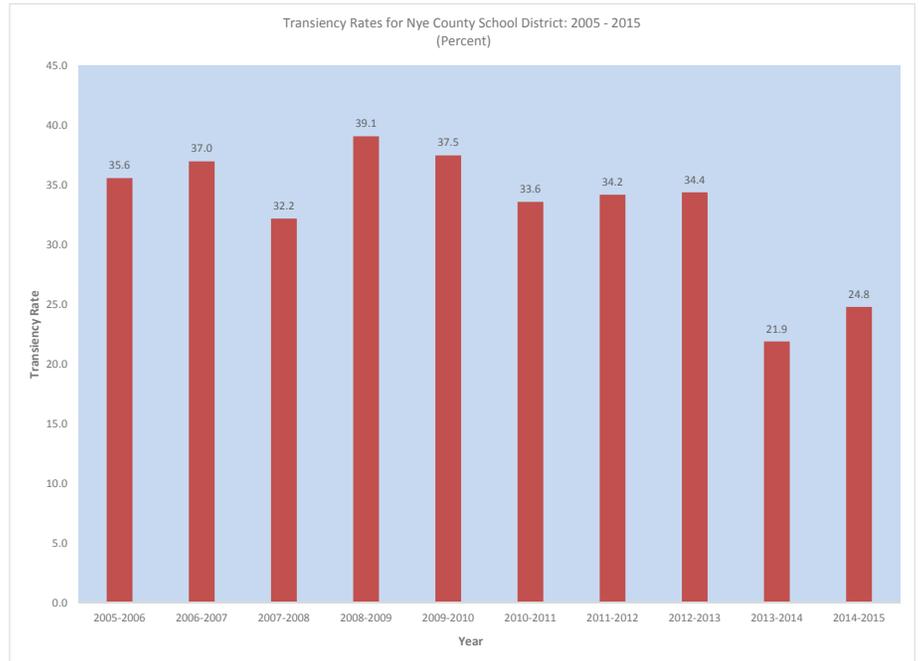
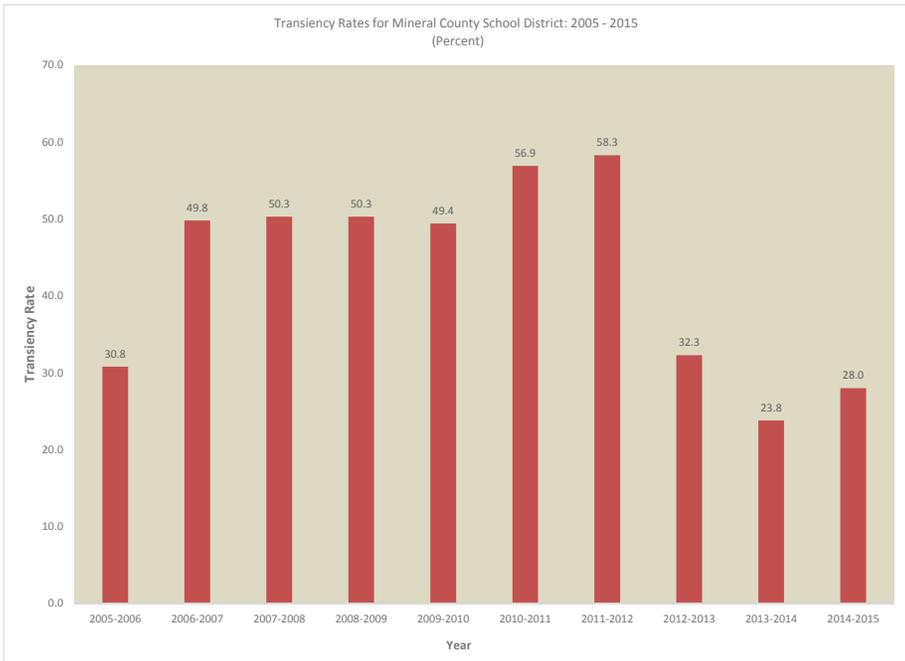


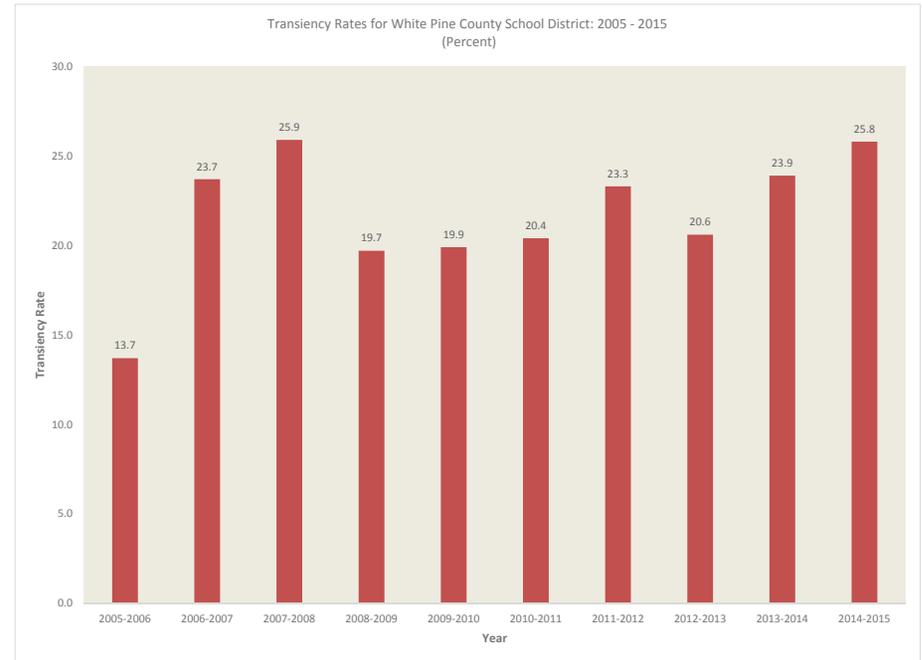
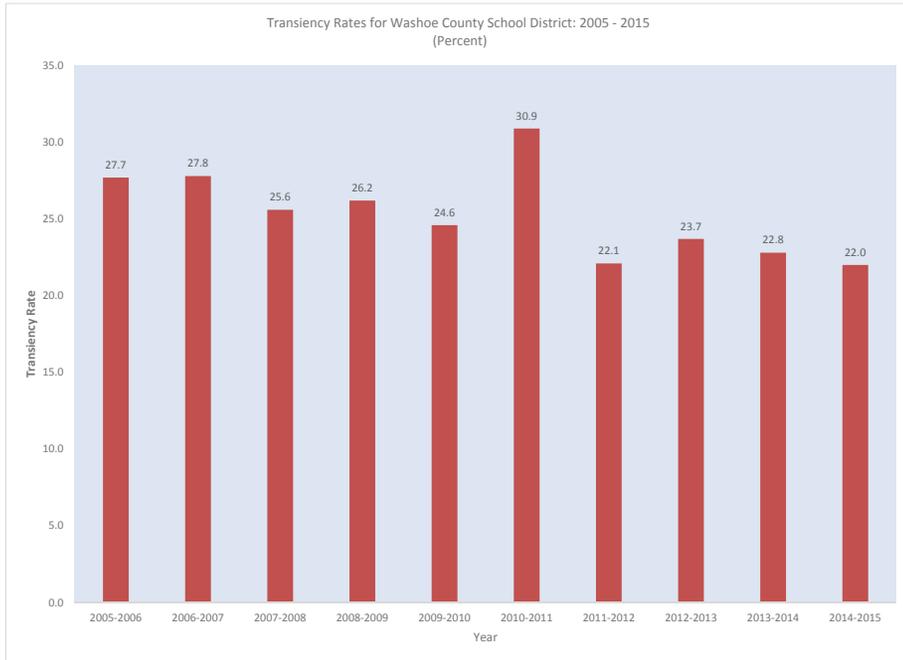
Note: Data were not available for 2007-2008.



Note: Data were not available for 2011-2012.







**Chart Data Information**

Data as of end of school year.

District totals do not include state- or district-sponsored charter school data.

Transiency incidents are reported at the school where the action occurred.

Source: Nevada Department of Education, *2014-2015 State Accountability Summary Report*, available online at <http://www.nevadareportcard.com/di/>, as of 2/19/16.

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*The views expressed are those of the author and do not necessarily represent those of the University of Nevada, Las Vegas or the Nevada System of Higher Education.*